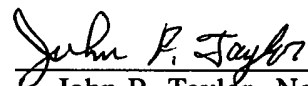


**REMARKS/ARGUMENTS**

Claims 1-34 remain in the application. Claim 23 has been amended to use a term having a proper antecedent in claim 20. Claim 26 has been amended to provide a proper dependence of claim 26 from a previous claim.

If the Examiner in charge of this case feels that there are any remaining unresolved issues in this case, the Examiner is urged to call the undersigned attorney at the below listed telephone number which is in the Pacific Coast Time Zone.

Respectfully Submitted,



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**VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE**

**In the Specification:**

The paragraph beginning at line 25 of page 5, as been amended as follows:

An "upper layer" referred to herein represents the layer of a structure that is contacted by the oblique particle beam in the method of the invention. In a preferred embodiment, the upper layer on the substrate, or the substrate itself when no layers are present thereon, is not a single-crystal layer or single-crystal substrate. The upper layer may comprise, but is not limited to, the surface portion of the structure facing the oblique particle beam. An upper layer or substrate can comprise, for example, an amorphous layer or substrate, or a polycrystalline layer or substrate. ~~A "lower layer" or "intermediate layer" of a structure refers to a substrate or a layer lying between the upper layer and the substrate.~~

**In the Claims:**

Claims 23 and 26 have been amended as follows:

23. (Amended) The method of claim 20 wherein said step of epitaxially growing a crystalline formation ~~lattice~~ comprises depositing a crystallizable layer onto said structure whereby said nucleating surface promotes the epitaxial crystal growth in said crystallizable layer.

26. (Amended) The method of claim 25 26, wherein said RE is yttrium.